

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Amendments

In the Claims:

Please substitute the following claims 1, 9, and 17 for the pending claims 1, 9, and 17:

1. (Twice amended) A process for the recovery of an organic acid from a fermentation broth comprising the steps of:

(a) drying said organic acid-containing fermentation broth to obtain an organic acid-containing dried product;

(b) adding said organic acid-containing dried product of step (a) to a lower alcohol in the presence of an acid, wherein said acid can be any acid which allows for selective recovery of the desired organic acid; and

(c) removing insolubles to obtain an organic acid.

9. (Twice amended) The process of claim 1, wherein in step (b) about 1.2 equivalents of said acid is present.

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17. (Twice amended) A process for the recovery of an organic acid from a fermentation broth comprising the steps of:

(a) drying said organic acid-containing fermentation broth to obtain an organic acid-containing dried product;

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(b) adding said organic acid-containing dried product of step (a) to a lower alcohol to obtain an alcoholic suspension;

(c) adding an acid to said alcoholic suspension of step (b), wherein said acid can be any acid which allows for selective recovery of the desired organic acid; and

(d) removing the insolubles to obtain an organic acid.

The following is a clean version of the claims 13, 22, and 28 as amended in the Amendment and Reply Applicants submitted previously on June 18, 2002:

13. (Once amended) The process of claim 1, wherein in step (c) removing insolubles comprises filtration.

22. (Once amended) The process of claim 17, wherein in step (a) drying comprises spray drying said fermentation broth.

28. (Once amended) The process of claim 17, wherein in step (d) removing insolubles comprises filtration.